

**TOWN MANAGER**  
Ken Deal

**TOWN CLERK**  
Pamela Mills

**TOWN ATTORNEY**  
Tom Brooke



**MAYOR**  
Lee Withers

**TOWN COUNCIL**  
Arthur Heggins  
Brandon Linn  
Rodney Phillips  
Charles Seaford  
Steve Stroud

## **TOWN OF CHINA GROVE**

### **A regular meeting of the China Grove Town Council**

**Tuesday, August 13, 2019**  
**7:00 p.m.**

**China Grove Town Hall**  
**China Grove, North Carolina**

#### **CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor Withers called the regular meeting of August 13<sup>th</sup>, 2019 to order and asked Nick Smith to lead the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance. He stated Mr. Smith is working on his Eagle.

Mayor Withers called roll. All council members were present with the exception of Mr. Stroud. There was a quorum.

The meeting started at 7:00 pm at the Town Hall.

Mr. Linn made a motion to adopt the agenda. Mr. Phillips seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

#### **Consent Agenda items:**

- a) Approve Minutes from June 4<sup>th</sup>, 2019 regular meeting
- b) Adopt Ordinance to close northbound lane of Main Street for Cruise In
- c) Adopt Resolution for Creek Week

Mr. Phillips made a motion to approve the consent agenda. Mr. Linn seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Mayor Withers recognized two of the Mayors Council members, Raychel Harrity from South Rowan High School and Robert Gould from China Grove Middle School.

#### **CITIZEN COMMENT**

None

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

- I) Proclamation – Rowan Little League 12U Softball Team

Mayor Withers stated he wanted to take the time to celebrate the accomplishments of the Rowan Little League 12U Softball Team. Mayor Withers read the proclamation aloud. Mayor Withers stated they are playing tonight at 7:00pm central time and wished them luck.

- II) Discuss Opportunity Zones

Mayor Withers stated Opportunity Zones have been discussed at the board meetings as a side note. He stated a developer has shown interest in the China Grove Elementary School property recently because of Opportunity Zones. He stated the EDC group including Mr. Seaford and Mr. Phillips have discussed Exit 68 and the developers have shown interest in the area because of Opportunity Zones. He asked the board to read about Opportunity Zones and see how this could affect China Grove positively.

Mr. Deal stated staff has provided a blog post from UNC School of Government in the packet and asked the Council to read over it. He stated they have also reached out to an expert of the subject to see if they could come and talk to the board.

Mr. Phillips asked if the capital gains tax deferral give us the ability to recruit a business to a property. Mayor Withers stated the mission of Opportunity Zones is to not encourage property flippers. He stated this encourages investors to hold on to the property and become a stable business in the community.

### **COUNCIL UPDATES**

Mayor Withers stated the 2019-2020 school year has started and there has been a lot of changes with the Renewal model.

### **DEPARTMENT UPDATES**

#### **I) Police Department monthly updates**

Chief Deal stated crime and traffic violations were down in June. He stated the Police Department building has had some renovations done. He recognized Officer Vickers and Officer Vail for receiving their Advance Law Enforcement Certificates. He stated a majority of our officers have their Advance Law Enforcement Certificate and this takes many hours to receive.

#### **II) Public Works Department monthly updates**

Mr. Ketner stated June and July are always busy months for the department.

#### **III) Administration Department monthly updates**

##### **a) Event Coordinator**

Mayor Withers stated Farmers Day was great again this year. He stated he has heard a lot of positive feedback from the visitors on the agricultural aspect of the festival. He stated the Kids Barnyard was a great addition this year. He stated attendance was not what is usually is but every vendor that he spoke with stated revenue was up and they could not wait to come back.

Mr. Phillips asked where we are on the Parks and Recreation grant process. Mr. Gover stated we will submit the RFQ and have some information by the September meeting.

Ms. Price stated there is a Cruise In this Saturday on August 17<sup>th</sup> from 2:00 – 6:00pm.

#### **IV) Fire Department monthly updates**

Mayor Withers thanked the Fire Department for being out at different events in the community from Churches to Schools to the National Night Out event. He stated it is great to see all the local departments working together.

Mr. Linn stated Ronnie Morris reached out and wanted to express his thank you in helping him out when a tree fell in the road.

Mr. Phillips thanked Mr. Ketner and Mr. Deal for handling the concerns of the board with brush and limb pickup.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Mr. Linn made a motion to adjourn. Mr. Phillips seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

**Respectfully Submitted,**

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**Pamela L. Mills, CMC**  
**Town Clerk**

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**Lee Withers**  
**Mayor**